GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:280
ANSWERED ON:17.11.2016
Central Schemes for Panchayats
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Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central schemes being implemented at Panchayat level;
(b) whether the Union Government has asked the Gram Panchayats to play active role in developmental activities and make use of Central Schemes for strengthening democracy at the grass-root level;
(c) if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether there is any monitoring mechanism to ensure functioning of Panchayats as per norms of the Union Government; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (c): Within the Constitutional framework, "Panchayat' is a State subject. Under Article 243G of Part IX of the Constitution, State Legislatures are to endow, to the Panchayats with powers and authority to enable them to function as institutions of local self-government and plan & implement schemes for economic development and social justice including on matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule. States vary in the extent to which they have devolved powers to Panchayats. Within the above framework, the Gram Panchayats are actively involved in implementation of various Central Schemes/Programmes relating to Soil Health Cards, Swachh Bharat for Open Defecation Free Panchayats, Mid-Day Meal scheme, Indradhanush Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Drip Irrigation, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Rural Electrification, Digital India, etc.

(d) & (e): The Ministry has constituted a coordination committee for providing guidance and support to State Governments and Local Bodies on implementation of recommendations and utilisation of funds under Fourteenth Finance Commission award. The States where the constitutional provisions of the Panchayats apply have also set up empowered committees at State, District and Block level for monitoring and facilitation of convergent planning by the Gram Panchayats under their respective Gram Panchayat Development Plan guidelines. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj also regularly reviews the status of devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to Panchayats through yearly assessment by an Independent Agency. A Management Information System (MIS) has been rolled out for monitoring of progress under RGSA, which will also capture the activities by States about enhancing Capacity Building and Training of PRIs towards attainment of Sustainable Development Goals.

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